

Amendments to the Specification:

Please delete the ~~paragraphs~~ on page 1, lines 1 and 2.

Please ~~replace~~ the title of the invention on page 1, lines 3 and 4, with the following rewritten title:

~~GOODS DELIVERY METHOD, ANONYMOUS ONLINE SHIPPING METHOD, ONLINE SHOPPING AND SYSTEM, SERVER, AND VENDER SERVER~~

Please ~~replace~~ the paragraph on page 1, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

~~2. Detailed Description of the Invention:~~

DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please ~~replace~~ the paragraph on page 1, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~[Field of the Invention]~~

Field of the Invention

Please ~~replace~~ the paragraph on page 1, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~[Background Art]~~

Background Description

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 20, and continuing to page 3, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1

For example, when customers use online shopping transactions to purchase goods on the Internet, credit cards, because of the convenience they offer, are the most frequently employed means for paying for the goods (settling the accounts). But when a credit card is used, a customer must provide a shop his or her credit card number, and there is an especially high probability that the credit card number will be illegally employed. Therefore, prepaid electronic money is employed by one part of shops, so that the credit card number of the customer need not be reported to the shops. By the employment of the electronic money, the customer can maintain his or her anonymity relative to the shop as in when the customer pays for the article by cash.

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[Problems to be Solved by the Invention]

Problems to be Solved by the Invention

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 8 to 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A2

There are verified instances of the occurrence of such online shopping problems, which would not have arisen for the customers who have bought and received of the same items at actual retail establishments, and paid for their purchases in cash, so there was no need to furnish such personal information as

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their names, addresses, telephone numbers and credit card numbers to the vendors. As is described above, online shopping still has some room for improvement in ensuring the anonymity of customers during the delivery of purchases.

Please ~~replace~~ the paragraph on page 4, line 23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~{Summary of the Invention}~~

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following paragraphs on line 11, between lines 2 and 3:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The foregoing and other objects, aspects and advantages will be better understood from the following detailed description of a preferred embodiment of the invention with reference to the drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a block diagram illustrating the configuration of an online shopping system according to a first embodiment of the invention;

Figures 2A and 2B are diagrams showing a member information table and an ID information table held by a service provider;

Figure 3 is a diagram showing an example slip used by a shop for dispatching an article;

Figure 4 is a diagram showing an example slip used by the service provider for delivering an article;

Figure 5 is a block diagram showing an example of online shopping;

Figure 6 is a flowchart showing the order processing performed between a customer and a shop;

Figure 7 is a flowchart showing the anonymous ID issuing processing;

Figure 8 is a flowchart showing the processing performed by a shop from

A3

A3
the time an order for an article is received until the article is dispatched;

Figure 9 is a flowchart showing the processing performed by the service provider;

Figure 10 is a table showing information that the shop, the service provider, an accounting organization and a customer can obtain;

Figure 11 is a block diagram showing online shopping according to a second embodiment of the invention;

Figure 12 is a block diagram showing online shopping according to a third embodiment of the invention;

Figure 13 is a block diagram showing online shopping according to a fourth embodiment of the invention; and

Figure 14 is a block diagram showing online shopping according to a fifth embodiment of the invention.

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~{Preferred Embodiments}~~

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF A PREFERRED
EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION**

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~{First Embodiment}~~

First Embodiment of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 30, and continuing to page 13, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A4
The terminal 31 of the customer 3 is, for example, a PC (Personal Computer) equipped with software, such as a browser 32 and a number request program 33. The browser 32 is used to browse a display of a member page of the anonymous service provider 1 and of the homepage of the shop 2, and can display on a screen a variety of information that is received. Also provided for the terminal 31 are input means, such as a pointing device or a keyboard, for the input of information and an amount of money. The number request program 33 submits requests to the number generation system of the anonymous service provider 1, which will be described later, for the generation of anonymous IDs. A clip board 34, a software program, is used to temporarily hold data when a cut-and-paste or a copy-and-paste procedure is performed.

Please replace the paragraph on page 14, lines 22 to 29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

AS
It is preferable that a random sequence of alphanumeric characters, for example, be used for anonymous IDs, so that a customer 3 can not be identified, or so that personal information, such as the name, the address and the telephone number of the customer 3, can not be ~~analogized~~ determined. Further, to prevent illegal use, it is preferable that a random sequence be employed, so that an anonymous ID can not be ~~analogous~~ similar to another.

Please replace the paragraph on page 28, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[~~Second Embodiment~~]

Second Embodiment of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph on page 29, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph: